

PRESIDENT: Senator Lynch, then Senator Higgins, and then Senator Abboud.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members, I think there are other alternatives. Sometimes when you think we have thought of everything, we really haven't thought of everything at all. As far as the cost is concerned, I have to share with you because I know a few county officials around the state. I would be willing to bet that 85 to 90 percent of everybody in almost every county assumed that this would happen, and in fact the cost involved in the paperwork to put this on the books has already been accomplished. In Douglas County alone, I can tell you they spent close to if not more than \$150,000 so far just accumulating the paperwork for the requests for this exemption. I think we should vote against this amendment to repeal. I think we should also pass the bill to Final and let it set there. I think the other alternative is that there probably will be a special session. If not, next year we can work with it but why kill it? If we made a promise, when that was, either last year, this year unknown as it was the year before, this year it was almost impossible to find the funds to fund it. Next year, there may be, who knows? But to kill the bill would not leave us that option. So I would suggest and recommend that you oppose the Hoagland amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I will be brief. I think everybody has probably made up their mind about this. The only thing I want to say to you is this. Senators, I don't care what the staff thinks. We made a promise on this homestead exemption. If you pick up the Wall Street Journal, Business Week, any knowledgeable news magazine, you will find the predictions even before the election were the economy is going to get more and more sluggish. Do we go back on our word as times get harder for people and say, well, in '84 Marge Higgins was running for election, and so were 24 other Senators running for election in 1984, so we passed this wonderful homestead exemption? But this is a different year now. I am back, a lot of the others are back that voted for that bill, so we don't really have to keep a promise. We can accept the reputation of being tinnhorn politicians that make promises we don't keep and not fund this or we can be statesmen and we can be